



## **BEGINNING B A N D**

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October 18th, 2022

Dear 4<sup>th</sup> grade families,

Each year for the past 21 years, 4<sup>th</sup> graders have been invited to join the P.S. 321 Beginning Band. This two year program is open to all interested 4<sup>th</sup> graders, whether they have played an instrument or not. We have approximately 20 spaces for new band members.

The Brooklyn Conservatory of Music oversees the program and provides the teachers, all of whom are professional musicians. Children are provided with high quality instruction and loaned an instrument to use for the school year. Students are taught in ensemble groups: clarinets, flutes, percussion, saxophones and trumpets.

**Beginning band classes are held from 2:50 – 4:05 pm every Monday** that school is in session from November 7<sup>th</sup> through May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The cost of the instrument loan and small group lessons is **\$850.00 for 24 sessions.** This is far less than comparable lessons plus instrument rental at the Conservatory. It is possible to make two payments, \$425.00 prior to the first class and the remaining \$425.00 in January. No child will be excluded for lack of ability to pay; scholarship assistance is available. ***(You must visit the guidance counselors, Ben Halioua or Jon Alvarez, for scholarship assistance approval prior to submitting your payment.)***

Children will be asked to choose two or three instruments, and though we will try to give them their first choice, they will be assigned an appropriate instrument at the second band class on **November 14th.**

Please talk with your child about this opportunity, and the commitment it involves. - We've found in the past that if children are not enthusiastic about joining band, it is not a worthwhile experience for them or their ensemble. *The 'student copy' below is for your child to keep at home.*

Courtney Gilbert  
PS 321 Band Liaison

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**Please return PAGE 2 to your band teacher on the second class, Monday November 14th.**

**2022-2023 P.S. 321 BAND CONTRACT**  
**4<sup>th</sup> GRADE BEGINNING BAND**

Students 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choices of instruments will be strongly considered  
however instruments will be selected by lottery.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, pledge to attend class  
every Monday from 3:00-4:05 pm with no more than 3 excused absences.

**I understand that band is a two year commitment and I will plan to  
continue my instrument into 5th grade.**

Student Signature:

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Parent/Guardian Signature:

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2022-2023 P.S. 321 BAND CONTRACT  
4<sup>th</sup> GRADE BEGINNING BAND

**STUDENT'S COPY** - keep this for your records

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